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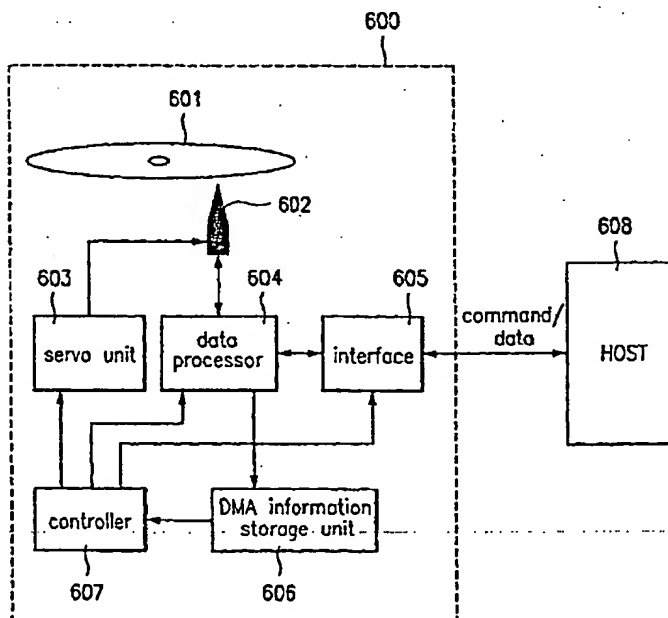
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS OF RECORDING DATA IN THE OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIUM

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to an optical recording medium and optical recording medium record/playback apparatus and method, for managing defective areas in a rewritable optical recording medium. Particularly, the present invention adds a linear replacement control (LRC) bit to a secondary defective list (SDL) entry to discriminate a defective block information that is listed at the SDL entry according to a linear replacement algorithm from a defective block information that is listed at the SDL entry according to a skipping algorithm, thereby allowing the optical recording medium record/playback apparatus to transmit correct information to a host. Furthermore, when a defective block requiring a new replacement block is found while recording or playing back data when spare area is full, instead of carrying out the linear replacement, the LRC bit is set in the SDL entry along with the location information of the defective block to indicate that the corresponding SDL entry was made when the spare area was full, whereby data is not written in the defective block or data of the defective block is not read when rewriting or reproducing the data afterward. Consequently, the present invention can effect efficient management over the disc.



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DESCRIPTION

Method and apparatus of recording data in the optical recording medium

Technical field

The present invention relates to an optical recording medium which allows rewriting,
5 and more particularly to a method and apparatus of recording data in the optical recording
medium, wherein defect areas can be managed.

Background Art

An optical storage medium is generally divided into a read only memory (ROM), a
10 write once, read many (WORM) memory into which data can be written one time, and
rewritable memories into which data can be written several times. Rewritable optical storage
mediums, i.e. optical discs, include rewritable compact discs (CD-RW) and rewritable digital
versatile discs (DVD-RW, DVD-RAM, DVD+RW).

The operations of writing and playing back data in a rewritable optical disc may be
15 repeated. This repeated process alters the ratio of storage layers for recording data into the
optical disc from the initial ratio. Thus, the optical discs lose its characteristics and generate
an error during recording/playback. This degradation is indicated as a defective area at the
time of formatting, recording on or playing back from an optical storage medium. Also,
defective areas of a rewritable optical disc may be caused by a scratch on its surface, particles
20 of dirt and dust, or errors during manufacture. Therefore, in order to prevent writing into or
reading out of the defective area, management of such defective areas is necessary.

FIG. 1 shows a defect management area (DMA) in a lead-in area and a lead-out area of the optical disc to manage a defect area. Particularly, the data area is divided into a plurality of zones for the defect area management, where each zone is further divided into a user area and a spare area. The user area is where data actually written and the spare area is used when a defect occurs in the user area.

There are four DMAs in one disc, e. g. DVD-RAM, two of which exist in the lead-in area and two exist in the lead-out area. Because managing defective areas is important, the same contents are repeatedly recorded in all four DMAs to protect the data. Each DMA comprises two blocks of 32 sectors, where one block comprises 16 sectors. The first block of the DMA, called a DDS/PDL block, includes a disc definition structure (DDS) and a primary defect list (PDL). The second block of the DMA, called an SDL block, includes a secondary defect list (SDL). The PDL corresponds to a primary defect data storage and the SDL corresponds to a secondary defect data storage.

The PDL generally stores entries of defective sectors caused during the manufacture of the disc or identified when formatting a disc, namely initializing and re-initializing a disc. Each entry is composed of an entry type and a sector number corresponding to a defective sector. The SDL lists defective areas in block units, thereby storing entries of defective blocks occurring after formatting or defective blocks which could not be stored in the PDL during the formatting. As shown in FIG. 2, each SDL entry has an area for storing a sector number of the first sector of a block having defective sectors, an area for storing a sector number of the first sector of a block replacing the defective block, and reserved areas.

Also, each SDL entry is assigned a value of 1 bit for forced reassignment marking

(FRM). A FRM bit value of 0 indicates that a replacement block is assigned and that the assigned block does not have a defect. A FRM bit value of 1 indicates that a replacement block has not been assigned or that the assigned replacement block has a defect. Thus, to record data in a defective block listed as a SDL entry, a new replacement block must be found
5 to record the data. Accordingly, defective areas, i.e. defective sectors or defective blocks, within the data area are replaced with normal or non-defective sectors or blocks by a slipping replacement algorithm and a linear replacement algorithm.

The slipping replacement is utilized when a defective area or sector is recorded in the PDL. As shown in FIG. 3A, if defective sectors m and n, corresponding to sectors in the user
10 area, are recorded in the PDL, such defective sectors are skipped to the next available sector. By replacing the defective sectors by subsequent sectors, data is written to a normal sector. As a result, the user area into which data is written slips and occupies the spare area in the amount equivalent to the skipped defective sectors.

The linear replacement is utilized when a defective block is recorded in the SDL or
15 when a defective block is found during playback. As shown in FIG. 3B, if defective blocks m and n, corresponding to blocks in either the user or spare area, are recorded on the SDL, such defective blocks are replaced by normal blocks in the spare area and the data to be recorded in the defective block are recorded in an assigned spare area. To achieve the replacement, a physical sector number (PSN) assigned to a defective block remains, while a logical sector
20 number (LSN) is moved to the replacement block along with the data to be recorded. Linear replacement is effective for non real-time processing of data. For convenience, a data which does not require real time processing is hereinafter called a personal computer (PC)-data.

If a replacement block listed in the SDL is found to be defective, a direct pointer method is applied to the SDL listing. According to the direct pointer method, the defective replacement block is replaced with a new replacement block and the SDL entry of the defective replacement block is modified into a sector number of the first sector of the new replacement block.

FIG. 4A shows a procedure to manage a defective block found while writing or reading data into or from the user area. FIGS. 4B ~ 4D show embodiments of SDL entries generated according to the linear replacement algorithm. Each SDL entry has, in order, a FRM, a sector number of the first sector of the defective block, and a sector number of the first sector of the replacement block.

For example, if the SDL entry is (1, blkA, 0) as shown in FIG. 4B, a defective block has been newly found during the reproduction and is listed in the SDL. This entry indicates that a defect occurs in block blkA and that there is no replacement block. The SDL entry is used to prevent data from being written into the defective block in the next recording. Thus, during the next recording, the defective block blkA is assigned a replacement block according to the linear replacement.

An SDL entry of (0, blkA, blkE), shown in FIG. 4C, indicates that the assigned replacement block blkE has no defect and data to be written into the defective block blkA in the user area is written into the replacement block blkE in the spare area. An SDL entry of (1, blkA, blkE) shown in FIG. 4D, indicates that a defect occurs in the replacement block blkE of the spare area which replaced the defective block blkA of the user area. In such case, a new replacement block is assigned according to the direct pointer method.

FIG. 5 is a partial diagram of an optical disc recording/playback (R/P) device relating to the recording operation. The optical disc (R/P) device includes an optical pickup to write data into and playback data from the optical disc; a servo unit controlling the optical pickup to maintain a certain distance between an object lens of the optical pickup and the optical disc, and to maintain a constant track; a data processor either processing and transferring the input data to the optical pickup, or receiving and processing the data reproduced through the optical pickup; an interface transmitting and receiving data to and from an external host; and a micro processor controlling the components. The interface of the optical disc R/P apparatus is coupled to a host such as a PC, and communicates commands and data with the host.

If there is data to be recorded in an optical disc R/P apparatus, the host sends a recording command to the optical disc R/P apparatus. The recording command comprises a logical block address (LBA) designating a recording location and a transfer length indicating a size of the data. Subsequently, the host sends the data to be recorded to the optical disc R/P apparatus. Once the data to be written onto an optical disc is received, the optical disc R/P apparatus writes the data starting from the designated LBA. At this time, the optical disc R/P apparatus does not write the data into areas having by referring to the PDL and SDL which indicate defects of the optical disc.

Referring back to FIG. 4A, the optical disc R/P apparatus skips physical sectors listed in the PDL and replaces the physical blocks listed in the SDL, within the area between A and B, with assigned replacement blocks in the spare area during the recording. If a defective block not listed in the SDL or a block prone to an error is found during the recording or playback, the optical disc R/P apparatus considers such blocks as defective blocks. As a

result, optical disc R/P apparatus searches for a replacement block in the spare area to rewrite the data corresponding to the defective block and lists the first sector's number of the defective block and the first sector's number of the replacement block at the SDL entry.

To perform the linear replacement, namely to write the data into the assigned replacement block in the spare area when finding a defective block (listed or not listed in the SDL), the optical disc R/P apparatus must move the optical pickup from the user area to the spare area and then back to the user area. Because moving the optical pickup may take time, a linear replacement interferes a real time recording.

Thus, defect area management methods for real time recording, such as audio visual apparatus, have been extensively discussed. One method is to use a skipping algorithm where a defective block is skipped and data is written into the next normal block, similarly to the slipping replacement algorithm. If this algorithm is employed, the optical pickup does not need to be moved to the spare area whenever a defective block is found, such that the time needed for moving the optical pickup can be reduced and the interference with the real time recording can be removed.

For example, if the PC-data which does not require real time processing, as shown in FIG. 4A, is received when the SDL is used, the linear replacement algorithm is executed upon finding defective blocks blkA and blkB. If the received data requires real time, as shown in the area between B and C of FIG. 4A, the skipping algorithm is used upon finding defective block blkC. Namely, the linear replacement is not performed. For linear replacement, the PSN of the defective block is maintained as is and the LSN of the defective block is moved to the replacement block. For the skipping algorithm, both the LSN and PSN of the defective

block blkC are maintained as they are.

Accordingly, when the host reads the data recorded according to the skipping algorithm, the microprocessor transmits all data including data of defective blocks through the interface. However, the host cannot identify the data of the skipped defective block since
5 it does not have information regarding the skipped defective blocks, resulting in an incorrect playback of the data. Therefore, the microprocessor of the optical disc R/P apparatus must instruct the optical pickup not to read the data of defective blocks among the data playback from the optical disc and transmitted to the host. Here, the information regarding the defective blocks, as shown in FIGS. 4B ~ 4D, remains in the SDL and the microcomputer
10 may transmit the information to the host, on request.

The SDL is information on defective blocks with respect to the linear replacement algorithm. However, the microprocessor cannot discriminate information recorded with respect to linear replacement from information recorded with respect to skipping algorithm not performing the linear replacement. Consequently, if skipping algorithm has been used,
15 the microprocessor may transmit incorrect information to the host. Likewise, the host cannot identify the data of skipped defective blocks, resulting in an erroneous playback of data.

Moreover, because of the size of the spare may not be sufficient, the spare area may become full while the DMA has redundant areas for listing defective blocks at the PDL or SDL entries. If the spare area is full, a spare full flag in the DMA is set. The spare area may
20 become full prior to the DMA when the initial allocation of spare area is insufficient or when the available spare area is quickly reduced due to defects, particularly burst defects occurring in the spare area. Because it is desirable to increase the recording capacity of the optical disc,

a method of further reducing the size of the spare area has been considered. In such case, however, there is a higher possibility that the spare area will become full prior to the DMA.

Consequently, if the optical disc R/P apparatus finds a defective block that is not listed in the SDL or is listed in the SDL but requires a new replacement block as shown in
5 FIGS. 4B ~ 4D while recording or playing back data, it checks the spare full flag of the DMA. If the spare full flag is in a reset state which indicates that available spare areas remain, the apparatus records the data of the defective block in a replacement block in the spare area and lists a new SDL entry or modifies the existing SDL entry. On the other hand, if the spare full flag is in a set state, which indicates that the spare area is full, a linear replacement cannot be
10 executed even if the DMA has redundant area. If the linear replacement cannot be executed when necessary, the management of defective area cannot be maintained. As a result, the disc cannot be used.

Disclosure of Invention

Accordingly, an object of the present invention is to solve at least the problems and
15 disadvantages of the related art.

An object of the present invention is to provide an optical disc and a defect management method for managing defect of the optical disc according to whether a replacement block has been assigned.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a data recording method and
20 apparatus which discriminately store and manage information on defective blocks within the optical disc according to whether a replacement block has been assigned.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide an optical disc, a defect management method for managing defect of such optical disc, and data recording method and apparatus for storing information on defective blocks according to whether linear replacement is performed.

5 A further object of the present invention is to provide an optical disc, a defect management method for managing defect of such optical disc, and data recording method and apparatus for storing information on defective blocks without application of linear replacement if there is no available replacement area.

10 A still further object of the present invention is to provide an optical disc, a defect management method for managing defect of such optical disc, and data recording method and apparatus for discriminately storing information on defective blocks skipped for real time processing or skipped due to a full spare area, and information on defective blocks related to linear replacement algorithm.

15 A still further object of the present invention is to provide an optical disc, a defect management method for managing defect of such optical disc, and data recording method and apparatus for discriminately storing information on defective blocks listed at SDL entries by giving identification information to the SDL entries according to whether linear replacement is performed.

20 Additional advantages, objects, and features of the invention will be set forth in part in the description which follows and in part will become apparent to those having ordinary skill in the art upon examination of the following or may be learned from practice of the invention. The objects and advantages of the invention may be realized and attained as particularly pointed out

in the appended claims.

To achieve the objects and in accordance with the purposes of the invention, as embodied and broadly described herein, an optical disc has a DMA for managing defects and comprises an area for recording identification information in the DMA. The identification information allows discrimination between when a replacement block has been assigned according to a linear replacement algorithm and when a replacement block is not assigned. The area for recording the identification information is assigned in a reserved area of a SDL entry in the DMA. The identification information indicates that a defective block was listed in the SDL either while data was recorded according to a skipping algorithm or when a spare area was full.

A defect management method of an optical disc according to the present invention comprises determining whether to assign a replacement block if a defective block is found during recording in the optical disc; and storing information on the defective block and storing identification information to discriminate a defective block with an assigned replacement block from a block without an assigned replacement block, based upon the results of the determination.

Information regarding a replacement block is not stored during real time recording. Also, information regarding a replacement block is not assigned when there is no available replacement area. The identification information is stored at a secondary defect list in a defect management area together with the defective block information. Moreover, the forced reassignment marking information is reset to 0. Furthermore, the defective block information discriminated based upon the identification information is notified to a host that transmits a recording command.

In another embodiment, a defect management method of an optical disc according to the present invention comprises detecting existence/non-existence of an available replacement area

if a defective block is found while recording the data in the optical disc; and storing information on the defective block and identification information indicating that a replacement block is assigned if available replacement area exists or a replacement block is not assigned if available replacement area does not exist. Available replacement block is determined not to exist if the data is recorded by skipping the defective block. Also, available replacement block is determined not to exist if the spare area is full.

In still another embodiment, a data recording method of an optical disc comprises receiving data and information of areas where data will be written in the optical disc; reading defective area information of the optical disc; detecting whether the defective area information covers a defective block that is found during the recording; detecting whether a replacement block is assigned to the defective block based upon the identification information contained in the defective area information if the found defective block is covered by the defective area information, and if a replacement block is assigned, writing the data in the assigned replacement block and, if not, finding a new available replacement block to write the data therein; and determining whether the defective block will be replaced with a replacement block if the defective block is not covered by the defective area information, and storing information on the defective block and the identification information to discriminate if a replacement block is assigned to the defective block in the defect management area of the disc based upon a result of the determination. The identification information is represented with at least one bit of a reserved area at a secondary defect list within the defect management area.

Moreover, a real time data recording method of an optical disc according to the present invention comprises receiving data and information regarding the area where the data will be

written in the optical disc; skipping a defective block and writing the data in a following normal block if the defective block is found during the real time recording; and storing information regarding the skipped defective block discriminately from information on a defective block replaced with a replacement block.

5 The identification information is set to indicate that the defective block is not replaced with a replacement block. If the defective block is found while recording the data by skipping defective blocks and if information regarding a replacement block for the defective block is listed at a secondary defect list entry, the replacement block information is maintained as is when the defective block information is stored.

10 Furthermore, an optical disc recording apparatus comprises a controller detecting a defective block and determining whether a replacement block is assigned to the defective block while recording the data; an optical pickup recording and playing back data in/from the optical disc according to control of the controller; and a storage unit storing information regarding the defective block and identification information to discriminate whether a replacement block is
15 assigned to a defective block.

 The storage unit does not store the replacement block during real time recording and represents this fact using the identification information. The storage unit also does not store the replacement block if there is no available replacement area and represents this fact using the identification information.

20 Brief Description of Drawings

 The invention will be described in detail with reference to the following drawings in

which like reference numerals refer to like elements wherein:

FIG. 1 shows a data area of a conventional optical disc;

FIG. 2 illustrates a structure of a conventional SDL entry;

FIG. 3A illustrates a conventional slipping replacement algorithm;

5 FIG. 3B illustrates a conventional linear replacement algorithm;

FIG. 4A illustrates a state of recording data according to the linear replacement algorithm or skipping algorithm when using SDL in the conventional optical disc;

FIGS. 4B to 4D illustrate embodiments of SDL entries listing information regarding defective blocks occurring when recording or playing back data according to the linear
10 replacement algorithm;

FIG. 5 is a block diagram of a conventional optical disc recording/playback apparatus;

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of an optical disc recording/playback apparatus according to the present invention;

FIG. 7A illustrates assigning identification information to an SDL entry according to an
15 optical disc defect managing method of the present invention;

FIGS. 7B to 7D illustrate SDL entries discriminately listed while recording or playing back data according to the skipping algorithm and linear replacement algorithm using the identification information;

FIG. 8A and 8B are flow charts showing how defective area is managed using the
20 identification information of FIG. 7 according to the present invention; and

FIG. 9 illustrates an SDL entry listed while recording or playing back data according to the skipping algorithm after changing a definition of FRM in the optical disc defect managing

method according to the present invention.

Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. The present invention distinguishably lists information regarding defective blocks in the SDL according to whether linear replacement has been executed upon finding defective blocks while recording or playing back data in or from an optical disc. In one embodiment, the present invention distinguishably lists such information by assigning an identification information. In another embodiment, such information is distinguishably listed by changing a part of the FRM definition.

In the first embodiment of the present invention, information indicating whether or not a corresponding defective block is listed while data is recorded according to the linear replacement algorithm is written in a reserved area in the SDL entry.

FIG. 6 shows an optical disc recording/playback apparatus according to the present invention comprising an optical pickup 602 recording and playing back data in and from an optical disc 601; a servo unit 603 controlling the optical pickup 602 to maintain a certain distance from an object lens of the optical pickup 602 to the optical disc 601, and to maintain a specified track; a data processor 604 processing the input data and transmitting the processed data to the optical pickup 602; a DMA information storage unit 606 reading and storing DMA information written in a DMA area of the optical disc via the data processor 604; an interface 605 transmitting and receiving data to and from an external host 608; and a controller 607 detecting whether a defective block exists during recording/playback of data and determining whether a

linear replacement has been executed to the defective block. The interface 605 of the optical disc R/P apparatus is coupled to the host 608, such as a PC, and communicates commands and data with the host 608.

When a rewritable optical disc, for example a DVD-RAM, is inserted into the apparatus
5 of the present invention, the SDL and PDL entries listed in the DMA area of the optical disc 601 are stored in the DMA information storage unit 606 through the data processor 604 under the control of the controller 607. At this time, the identification information indicating whether linear replacement has been performed with respect to a corresponding defective block is added into the DMA information stored in the DMA information storage unit 105.

10 For example, at least one bit of the reserved area in the existing SDL entry is assigned as the identification information (ID Info) bit. The ID Info bit is set to either a value of 1 or 0 to distinguish whether the linear replacement has been executed to the information listed in the SDL. Namely, the linear replacement algorithm is not performed when skipping algorithm is performed or when the spare area is full. In the present invention, the ID Info bit is called a
15 linear replacement control (LRC) bit and shown in FIG. 7A.

Referring to FIG. 7A, each SDL entry comprises an LRC area, an area for storing a sector number of the first sector of a block having defective sectors, and an area for storing a sector number of the first sector of a replacement block replacing the defective block. Because the LRC bit has a different meaning from the FRM bit, the FRM may also be included in the SDL.

20 However, in this embodiment of the present invention, the FRM bit is not used.

As shown in FIG. 7B, a LRC bit value of 0 in the SDL entry means that the SDL entry was made while recording the data according to the linear replacement algorithm. As shown in

FIG. 7C or 7D, a LRC bit value of 1 means that the SDL entry was made while recording the data according to the skipping algorithm rather than the linear replacement or while the spare area is full. When a defective block is found during recording of data according to the linear replacement algorithm, the data corresponding to the defective block is recorded in a replacement block and the LRC bit is reset to 0, provided that the spare area is not full. Otherwise, if the spare area is full, the linear replacement is not performed and the LRC bit is set to 1. Also, when a defective block is found while recording the data according to the skipping algorithm, the defective block is skipped and the LRC bit of an SDL entry corresponding to the defective block is set to 1.

Once a predetermined time has passed, for example, during the recording of data or after completing the recording, the controller 607 transmits information regarding the defective blocks to the host. At such time, the controller 607 can detect whether or not the corresponding SDL entry was made while recording the data according to the linear replacement algorithm based upon the LRC bit, thereby being able to transmit a correct information to the host. Accordingly, the host can appropriately command not to record/playback data in/from defective blocks listed in the SDL.

The host may issue a write/read command in view of the defective blocks listed in the SDL. Namely, the host would command not to record or playback data in or from defective blocks listed in the SDL. The optical disc R/P apparatus receives both the data and information of areas where data will be written in the optical disc, and reads a information regarding defective areas of the optical disc. The optical disc R/P apparatus detects whether the defective area information covers a defective block that is found during the recording; and detects whether a

replacement block is assigned to the defective block based upon the identification information contained in the defective area information if the found defective block is covered by the defective area information. If a replacement block is assigned, writing the data in the assigned replacement block and, if not, finding a new available replacement block to write the data therein. The optical disc R/P apparatus further determines whether the defective block will be replaced with a replacement block if the defective block is not covered by the defective area information, and stores information on the defective block and the identification information to discriminate if a replacement block is assigned to the defective block in the defect management area of the disc based upon a result of the determination. The identification information is represented with at least one bit of a reserved area at a secondary defect list within the defect management area.

Thus, the optical disc R/P apparatus bypasses the defective blocks listed in the SDL while writing/reading the data. In such case, the LRC bit of SDL entry is set to 1 upon encountering a new defective block and location information of the defective block is entered. Since information regarding the replacement block is not necessary, the existing value is kept as is or a value of 0 is entered

Alternatively, if the host issues a write/read command regardless of the defective block information in the SDL, the controller 607 of the optical disc R/P apparatus identifies the defective blocks listed in the SDL based upon the DMA information stored in the DMA information storage unit 606 during the data record/playback. If the read command is issued, whether a replacement block should be found can be determined based upon the LRC bit of the SDL entry where the defective block is listed. If the write command is issued, the LRC bit of an

existing entry may change depending upon whether the linear replacement algorithm or not. Here, a newly found defective block is processed in the same way as described above. For example, if a defective block listed in the SDL is found while recording data according to the skipping algorithm, the defective block is skipped and the LRC bit of the SDL entry
5 corresponding to the defective block is set to 1.

At this time, if the information regarding a replacement block is written in the area for storing the sector number of the first sector of the replacement block in the SDL entry, the information is maintained as is. For example, a SDL entry of (0, blkC, blkG) as shown in FIG. 7B, means that data was recorded according to the linear replacement algorithm and a
10 replacement block has been assigned. If such a SDL entry is met while recording data according to the skipping algorithm, the defective block blkC is skipped and the SDL entry is modified into (1, blkC, blkG) as shown in FIG. 7C.

Thus, the SDL entry of (1, blkC, blkG) as shown in FIG. 7C, means that data was recorded according to the skipping algorithm, a defect occurred in block blkC, and the information
15 regarding the replacement block blkG is maintained but not used during the record/playback.. A SDL entry of (1, blkC, 0) as shown in FIG. 7D, means that data was recorded according to the skipping algorithm and a new defective block blkC was found and entered. If such SDL entry is found while recording the data according to the skipping algorithm, the defective block blkC is skipped and the SDL entry is maintained as is.

20 If the information regarding the replacement block of the spare area, which was previously listed in the SDL entry according to the linear replacement algorithm, is maintained in the SDL entry as it was while recording the data according to the skipping algorithm, the

replacement block information can be used in subsequent recordings. In other words, when writing data into such defective block listed in the SDL according to the linear replacement algorithm, if the replacement block information does not exist, a replacement block for the defective block must be newly assigned to the spare area. However, if the information regarding the replacement block is maintained, the location of the replacement block previously assigned
5 can be used as the newly assigned replacement block.

For example, a block following the replacement block blkH, shown in FIG. 4A, is assigned as the new replacement block. Since a replacement block that was previously assigned cannot be re-used, the available capacity of the optical disc is reduced, thereby decreasing the efficiency of the optical disc. Therefore, if the replacement block information is maintained even
10 while recording data according to the skipping algorithm, as described above, the replacement block previously assigned can be re-used as is when writing data according to the linear algorithm in a subsequent recording, thereby increasing the efficiency of the optical disc.

Specifically, if the information regarding the replacement block blkG, where data of the defective block blkC was written during the linear replacement recording, is kept in the SDL
15 entry during the real time recording, the data of the defective block blkC is written not into a new replacement block in the spare area but into the replacement block blkG, which has already been assigned, during the next linear replacement recording.

Meanwhile, if a defective block requiring a new replacement block is found during the
20 record/playback using the linear replacement, but there is no replacement block for the defective block, namely the spare area is full (provided the DMA has redundancy), the LRC bit value of the SDL entry is set to 1. At this time, a replacement block does not exist. As a result, the

replacement block information is not listed and the location information of the defective block is listed as shown in FIG. 7D. If the spare full flag and the LRC bit is set to 1 during the playback or recording, data of the defective block cannot be read and data cannot be written in the defective block because the replacement block for the defective block does not exist and the linear replacement cannot be executed.

FIG. 8A and 8B are flow charts showing the above operations of the optical disc R/P apparatus according to the present invention. If there is data to be recorded, the host inputs a write command and if there is playback of data, the host inputs a read command, via the interface of the optical disc R/P apparatus (800). Once a write or read command is received from the host, the controller 607 of the optical disc R/P apparatus determines whether the input data requires a real time recording/playback (802).

When the data is determined to require real time recording, the apparatus starts to write the data on a location of the LBA designated by the host (804). A determination is made whether writing of data is completed (806) and if a defective block is found when the writing of data is not completed (808), the defective block is skipped and the data is written in a next normal block (810). Information regarding the skipped defective block is entered in the SDL (812) and sent to the host (814). This information is entered in a way distinguishable from an information of a defective block found while performing the linear replacement algorithm. Thus, the controller 607 can distinguish SDL entry made while recording data according to the skipping algorithm from a SDL entry made while recording data according to the linear replacement algorithm. For this purpose, the LRC bit of the SDL is set to 1 and the location information of the defective block is entered in the SDL entry.

The defective block found in step 808 may be a newly encountered defective block or a block already listed in the SDL. If the defective block is not listed in the SDL, the defective block is new and the location information regarding the defective block is listed in the SDL entry by setting the LRC bit to 1, such as (1, blkC, 0) shown in FIG. 7D. If the defective block is listed
5 in the SDL, the SDL is corrected by setting the LRC bit to 1 and maintaining the information regarding the replacement block, such as (1, blkC, blkG) shown in FIG. 7C. Such procedure is performed until the recording of data by the write command of the host is completed. If the writing is completed (806), the controller 607 transmits a command execution report to the host (816).

10 When the data is determined to require real time playback, the apparatus starts to read the data from a location of the LBA designated by the host (804). As in the recording, a determination is made whether reading of data is completed (806). However, if a defective block is found when the reading of data is not completed (808), the defective block may be skipped, a partially correct data may be read from the defective block or zero padding data may be returned
15 (not shown in FIG. 8A). Information regarding the skipped defective block is entered in the SDL (812) and sent to the host (814). Such procedure is performed until the playback of data by the read command of the host is completed. If the reading is completed (806), the controller 607 transmits a command execution report to the host (816).

20 During recording/playback, the controller 607 may send the information regarding the defective block to the host in various ways. For example, the defective block information can be embedded in a header for transmission to the host, or a new command allowing recognition of the skipped block can be generated and transmitted to the host, or the defective block

information may be transmitted together with the command execution report to the host after completing the recording/playback of the real time data.

If it is determined that the data to be recorded does not require real time recording in step 802, namely the data is PC-data, the controller 607 writes/reads the data starting on/from the LBA designated by the host (820). If a read command is received, the playback is carried out starting from the LBA designated by the host and if a write command is received, the recording is carried out starting from the LBA designated by the host. When writing/reading of data is not completed (822) and if a defective block is found (824), a determination is made whether the defective block is listed in the SDL (826).

If the defective block is not listed in the SDL, a replacement block from the spare area is assigned. Thus, the spare full flag is checked to determine whether there are any available replacement blocks, i.e. whether the spare area is full (828). A spare full flag of 1 indicates that there are no available replacement blocks. If there are no available replacement blocks, the LRC information in the SDL is set to 1, the location information of the defective block is listed and the location information of the replacement block is set to 0, such as (1, blkC, 0) shown in FIG. 7D (830). The information on defective block is transmitted to the host (832) and a report of an error in the recording/playback process is sent to the host (834).

If the spare area is not full during writing of data, a replacement block is assigned and the data to be written in the defective block is written in the replacement block (836). Also, the location information of the defective block and the replacement block is listed in the SDL and the LRC information in the SDL is set to 0, such as (0, blkC, blkG) shown in FIG. 7B (836). The information on defective block is transmitted to the host (838) and the process returns to step 820.

to record more data (840).

During reading of data, even if there are available replacement blocks, data cannot be read from the defective block. Accordingly, the a report of an error in the playback is sent to the host (840). However, the information on the defective block may be transmitted to the host for future
5 use (838) and a replacement block may even be assigned for use in the next recording (not shown). If a replacement block is assigned, the location information of the defective block and the replacement block is listed in the SDL and the LRC information in the SDL is set to 0 in step 836.

If the defective block is listed in the SDL, a further determination is made whether a
10 replacement block has been assigned (842). Namely, if the LRC bit is 0, the SDL entry was made previously while recording/playback of data according to the linear replacement algorithm. Thus, the recording/playback is continued according to the linear replacement algorithm (844) and the process returns to step 820 for more recording/playback of data. In other words, if a replacement block is assigned to the SDL entry, the optical pickup is moved to the replacement
15 block and the data is written/read in/from the replacement block. If the LRC bit of the SDL entry is 1 and a replacement block is listed, such as (1, blkC, blkG) shown in FIG. 7C, the listed replacement block is used to perform the linear replacement and the LRC bit is corrected to 0, making the SDL entry to (0, blkC, blkG) shown in FIG. 7B.

If the assigned replacement block is defective, a new replacement block may be assigned
20 according to the direct pointer method and the data is then written/read in/from the assigned replacement block. However, if the spare area becomes full prior to the DMA and there is no replacement block to be assigned, the location information of the defective block of the SDL

entry is maintained and the LRC bit is changed into 1, such as (1, blkC, 0) shown in FIG. 7D, indicating not to execute the linear replacement.

If a replacement block has not been assigned in the SDL entry, the spare full flag is checked to determine whether there are any available replacement blocks (846). Namely, if the LRC bit of the SDL entry is set to 1, the SDL entry may have been made while data was written/read according to the skipping algorithm or while the spare area was full. Accordingly, if there are no available replacement blocks, i.e. the spare area is full, the a report of a write/read error in the recording/playback process is sent to the host (834). However, when formatting an optical disc whose spare area is full, the SDL may be moved to the PDL depending upon the formatting method, such that the spare area may no longer be full. In any case, if the spare area is not full, the process is the same as when the spare area is not full for defective blocks not listed in the SDL (836-840).

The above procedure for non real time data is carried out until the recording/playback of data by the writing/reading command of the host is completed. If the writing/reading is completed, the controller 607 sends a command execution report to the host (848). Here, the controller 607 sends the information regarding the skipped defective block to the host in the various methods as described above with reference to FIG. 8A, step 816.

In a second embodiment of the present invention, the definition of the FRM is changed to distinguish a linear replacement from a skipping replacement. If a defective block blkC is found while recording data according to the skipping algorithm in real time, the SDL entry is listed as (0, blkC, 0) shown in FIG. 9. At this time, a replacement block is not needed, so the information regarding the replacement block in the spare area is not changed or is listed as 0.

Only the definition of the FRM changes.

For example, if FRM and the replacement block are both 0, it is modified to be recognized as indicating a defective block found while performing the skipping algorithm or as indicating an assigned replacement block rather than a defective case of performing the linear replacement. This is because the defective block, even if found during the real time recording, is skipped and a replacement block for the defective block does not exist in the spare area. In addition, this aims at distinguishing the SDL entry listed according to the skipping algorithm from the SDL entry listed according to the linear replacement algorithm. Even under the condition that the area between B and C in FIG. 4A was listed according to the linear replacement algorithm and the defective block information such as (0, blkC, blkG) was kept as the SDL entry, if the area is used for rewriting according to the skipping algorithm, the SDL entry is modified into (0, blkC, 0).

In sum, the present invention has the following advantages. Primarily, since the controller can detect existence/non-existence of the linear replacement based upon the LRC bit assigned to each SDL entry, the optical disc R/P apparatus (namely, a drive) can transmit the correct information to the host. Accordingly, even if incorrect data of skipped blocks, namely previous data written in the skipped blocks is reproduced by the optical disc R/P apparatus and transmitted to the host during the reproduction of data, the host discards the data of the skipped blocks and reads only the data of normal blocks based upon the defective block information received from the controller. In other words, the present invention can prevent an error occurring when the host does not know the information regarding the skipped blocks.

Also, even if finding a defective block listed in the SDL while carrying out the playback

command from the host, the controller can distinctly determine whether to find a replacement block or to discard the defective block and return only an error message to the host. Finally, when a defective block requiring a new replacement block is found while recording or playing back data under while the spare area is full, instead of carrying out the linear replacement, the

5 LRC bit is set in the SDL entry along with the location information of the defective block to indicate that the corresponding SDL entry was made when the spare area was full, whereby the data is not written in the defective block or data of the defective block is not read when rewriting or reproducing the data afterwards. Consequently, the present invention allows efficient management over the disc and increases durability of the disc.

10 The foregoing embodiments are merely exemplary and are not to be construed as limiting the present invention. The present teachings can be readily applied to other types of apparatuses. The description of the present invention is intended to be illustrative, and not to limit the scope of the claims. Many alternatives, modifications, and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

CLAIMS

1. An optical recording medium with a defective management area (DMA) for managing defects of the optical recording medium, comprising an area in the DMA to record identification information, wherein said identification information indicates whether a replacement block has been assigned according to a linear replacement.

2. An optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said area to record the identification information is assigned into a reserved area of a secondary defective list (SDL) entry in said DMA.

3. An optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said identification information indicates if a defective block information in a SDL was entered while writing data according to a skipping algorithm or while a spare area of the optical recording medium was full.

4. A defect management method of an optical recording medium for managing defective blocks found during a recording of data, said method comprising:

(A) determining if a replacement block should be assigned upon finding a defective block during a writing of data in the optical recording medium; and

(B) storing information regarding the defective block indicating whether a replacement block has been assigned for the defective block according to a linear replacement based upon results of step (A).

5. A defect management method of claim 4, wherein in step (A), the replacement block is not assigned during a real time recording of data.

6. A defect management method of claim 5, wherein in step (A), skipping the defective block and setting a LRC information to indicate that a replacement block has not been
5 assigned according to a linear replacement.

7. A defect management method of claim 5, wherein in step (A), resetting a forced reassignment marking information to 0.

8. A defect management method of claim 4, wherein in step (A), the replacement block is not assigned if there is no available replacement area.

10 9. A defect management method of claim 4, wherein in step (B), the information regarding the defective block is stored together with the defective block information in a secondary defective list (SDL) of a defective management area.

10. A defect management method of claim 9, wherein if the defective block found during a non real time writing of data is not listed in the SDL and if there are no available
15 replacement area, said method further comprising:

setting and storing a LRC information to indicate that a replacement block has not been assigned;

storing a location information of the defective block; and

setting and storing a location information of a replacement block to 0.

11. A defect management method of claim 9, wherein if the defective block found during a non real time writing of data is not listed in the SDL and if there is available replacement area, said method further comprising:

5 assigning a replacement block to the defective block;

writing data to the replacement block assigned to the defective block; and

setting and storing a LRC information to indicate that a replacement block has been assigned;

10 storing a location information of the defective block; and

setting and storing a location information of the replacement block assigned to the defective block.

12. A defect management method of claim 9, wherein if the defective block found during a non real time writing of data is listed in the SDL and if there is already a replacement block assigned to the defective block, performing a linear replacement using said replacement block already assigned to the defective block.

13. A defect management method of claim 9, wherein if the defective block found during a non real time writing of data is listed in the SDL and if there is no replacement block assigned to the defective block, said method further comprising:

assigning a replacement block to the defective block, if there is available replacement area;

writing data to the replacement block assigned to the defective block; and

setting and storing a LRC information to indicate that a replacement block has been

5 assigned;

storing a location information of the defective block; and

setting and storing a location information of the replacement block assigned to the defective block.

10 14. A defect management method of claim 4, wherein the information regarding the defective block is transmitted to a host.

15 15. A defect management method of claim 14, wherein the information regarding the defective block is embedded in a header for transmission to the host.

16. A defect management method of claim 14, wherein the information regarding the defective block is transmitted together with a command execution report to the host after completing the recording of the data.

17. A data recording method of an optical recording medium having identification information within a defective management area for managing defects, said data recording method comprising:

receiving data and information regarding a location where data will be written in the optical recording medium;

reading a defective area information of the optical recording medium;

detecting whether said defective area information covers a defective block found during the data recording;

detecting whether a replacement block has been assigned to the found defective block based upon an identification information contained in the defective area information if the defective block is covered by the defective area information;

writing the data in the assigned replacement if a replacement block is assigned to the defective block, and finding a new replacement block to write the data if a replacement block is not assigned; and

determining whether to assign a replacement block to the defective block if the defective block is not covered by the defective area information, and storing information regarding the defective block and an identification information indicating whether a replacement block is assigned to the defective block in the defect management area based upon the determination whether to assign a replacement block.

18. A data recording method of claim 17, wherein said identification information is represented by at least one bit in a reserved area of a secondary defective list within the defective management area.

19. A real time data recording method of an optical recording medium having

identification information within a defect management area for managing defective, said real time data recording method comprising:

(A) receiving data and information regarding the location where data will be written in the optical recording medium;

5 (B) skipping a defective block and writing the data in a normal block following the defective block if the defective block is found during a real time recording; and

(C) storing information regarding the skipped defective block distinctively from an information regarding a defective block replaced by a replacement block.

10 20. A real time data recording method of claim 19, wherein in step (C), storing the information regarding the skipped defective block with an identification information indicating that the defective block is not replaced with a replacement block.

15 21. A real time data recording method of claim 20, if information regarding a replacement block of the skipped defective block is already listed in a secondary defective list entry, maintaining the information regarding the replacement when storing the information regarding the skipped defective block.

20 22. An optical recording medium recording apparatus for recording data according to a recording command transmitted from a host, said recording apparatus comprising:

a storage unit storing information regarding defective blocks and storing identification information indicating whether a replacement block is assigned to the defective block.

a controller detecting a defective block and determining whether a replacement block is assigned to the defective block utilizing the information regarding defective blocks and the identification information stored in the storage unit; and

5 an optical pickup writing and reading data in and from an optical recording medium according to a control of the controller; and

23. A recording apparatus of claim 22, wherein during a real time recording, the storage unit stores the identification information indicating that a replacement block is not assigned.

10 24. A recording apparatus of claim 23, wherein the storage unit stores the identification information indicating that a replacement block is not assigned, if there is no available replacement area.

FIG.1

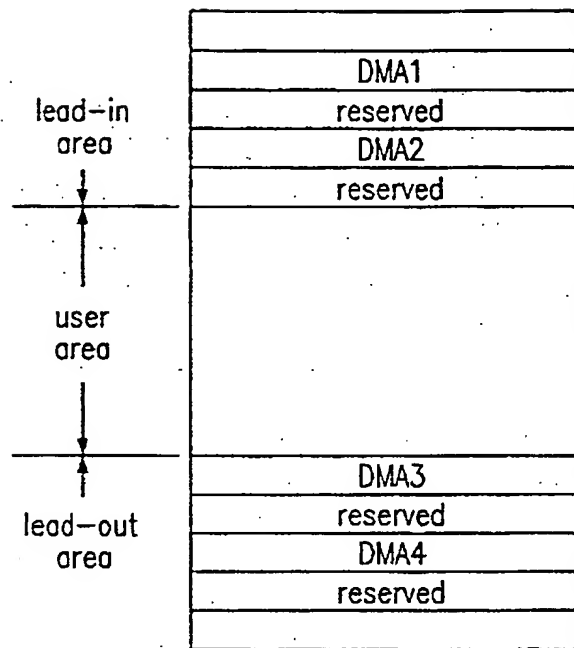


FIG.2

b63	b62.....b56	b55.....b32	b31.....b24	b23.....b0
FRM	reserved	sector number of first sector of defective block	reserved	sector number of first sector of replacement block

FIG.3A

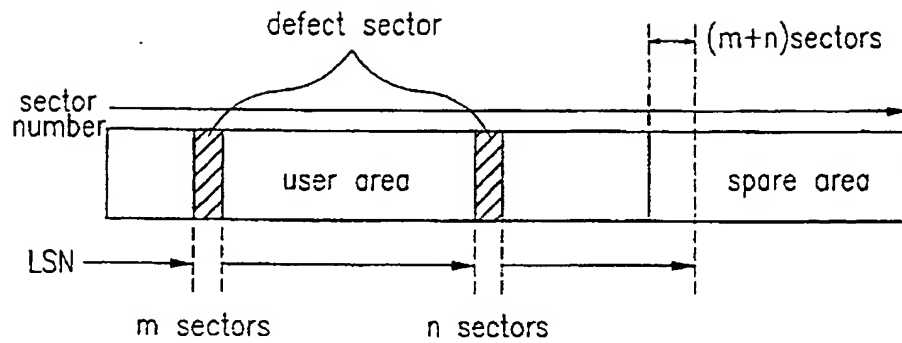


FIG.3B

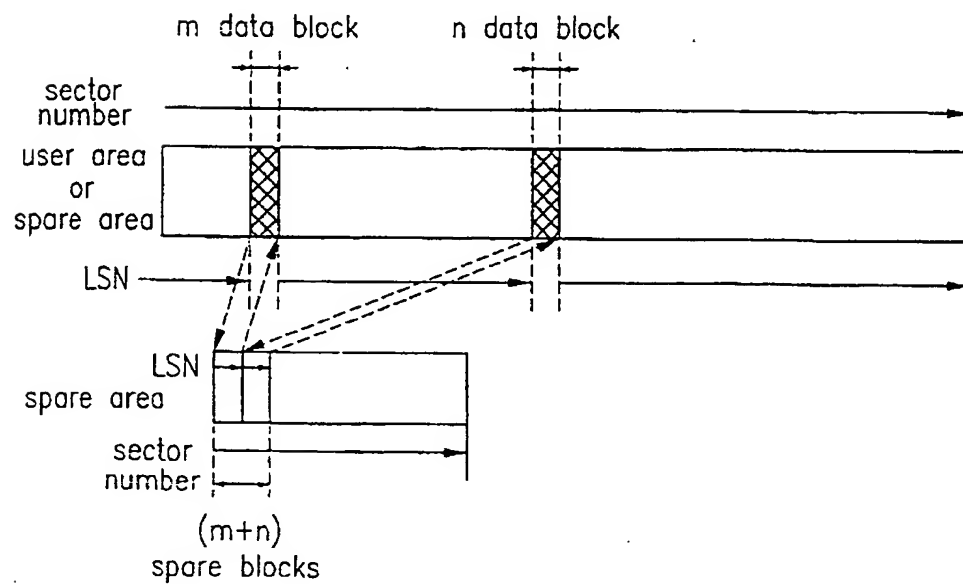


FIG. 4A

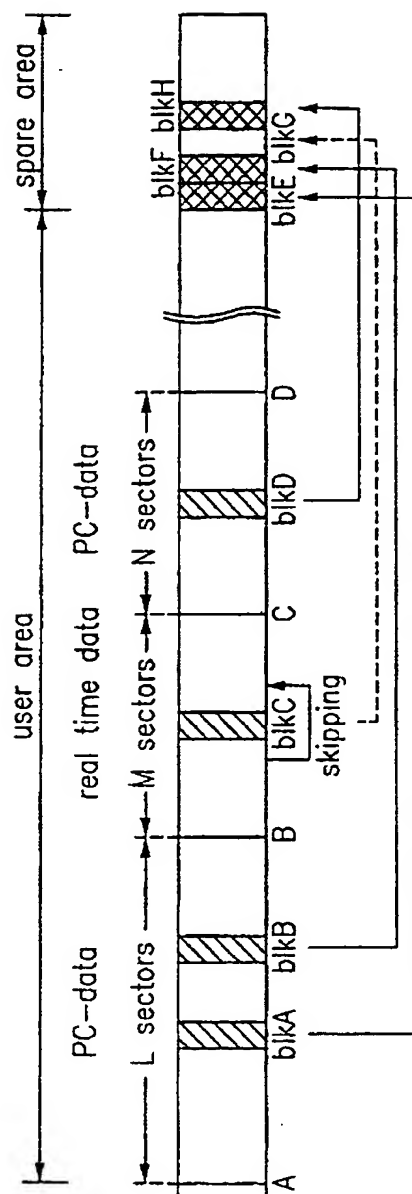


FIG.4B

1	blkA	0
---	------	---

FIG.4C

0	blkA	blkE
---	------	------

FIG.4D

1	blkA	blkE
---	------	------

FIG.5

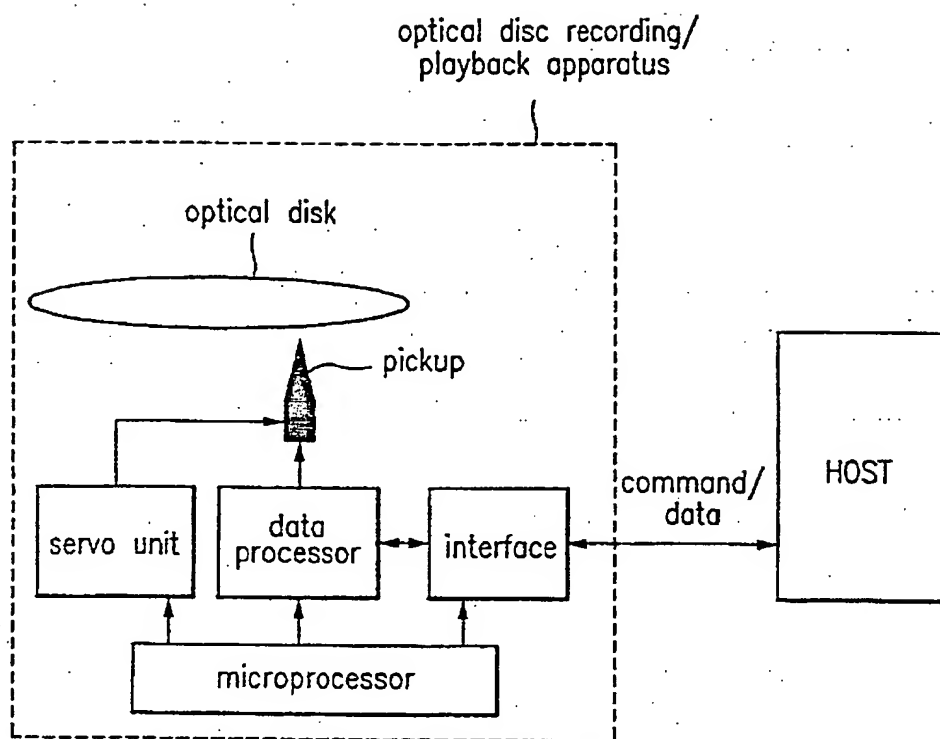


FIG.6

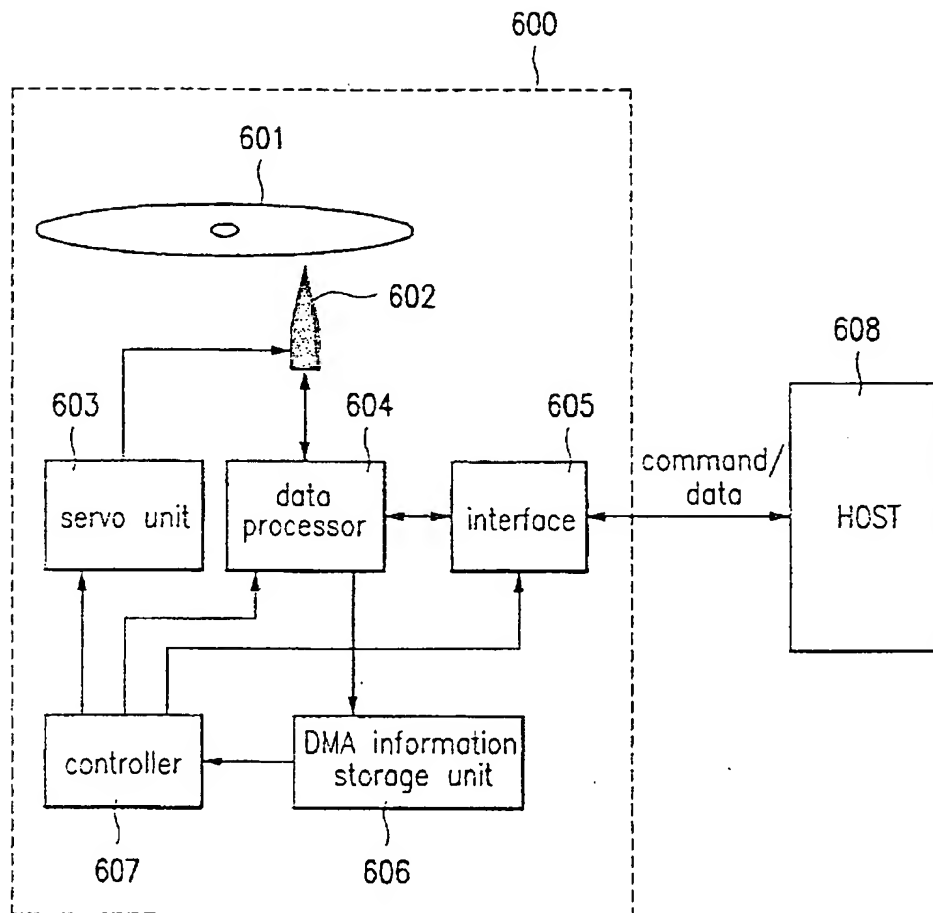


FIG.7A

b63	b62	b61.....b56 b55	b32 b31.....b24 b23	b0
reserved	LRC	reserved	sector number of first sector of defective block	reserved	sector number of first sector of replacement block	

FIG.7B

0	blkC	blkG
---	------	------

FIG.7C

1	blkC	blkG
---	------	------

FIG.7D

1	blkC	0
---	------	---

FIG.8A

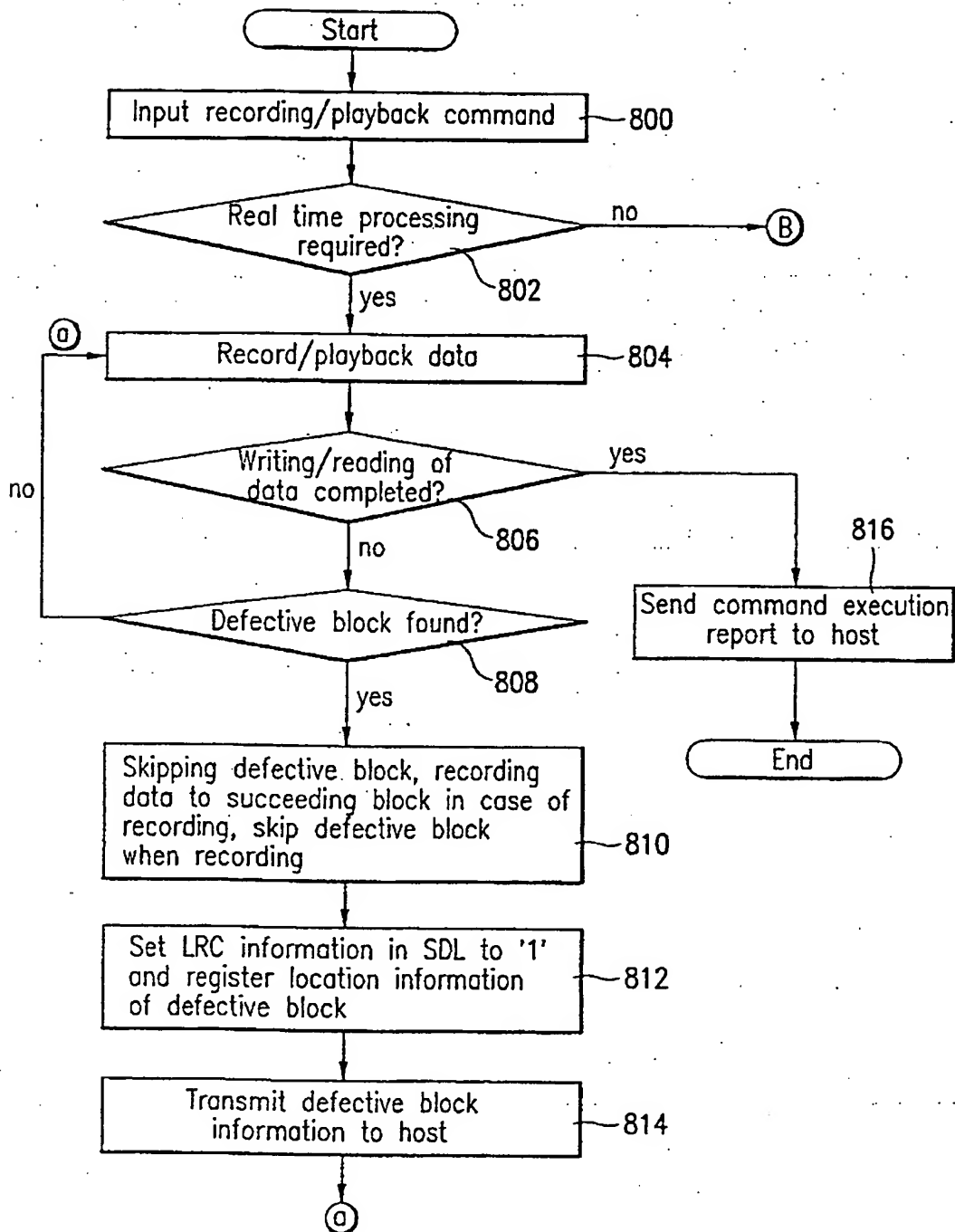


FIG.8B

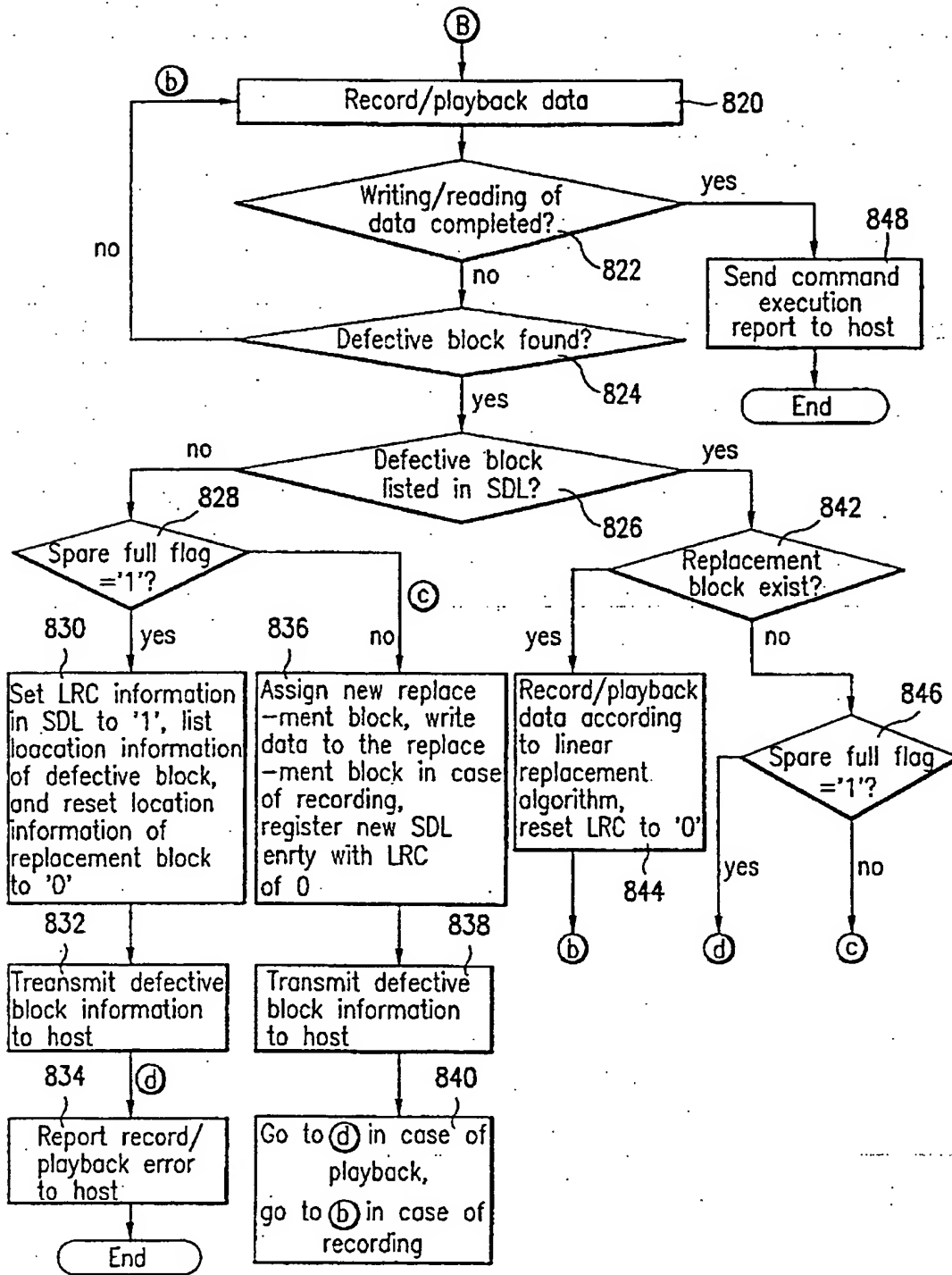


FIG.9



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/KR 99/00374

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC ⁷ : G 11 B 20/18, 20/12, 20/10, 7/00, 20/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
IPC ⁷ : G 11 B 20/00, 7/00		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
WPI		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 837 472 A2 (SONY CORP.), 22 April 1998 (22.04.98), abstract; fog.1,2; claim 1; column 3, line 51- column 3, line 13.	1-24
A	JP 08-249 659 A (HITACHI ELECTRON ENG CO., LTD.), 31 January 1997 (31.01.97), In: Patent Abstracts of Japan [CD-ROM].	1-24
A	EP 0 845 780 A1 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO., LTD.), 03 June 1998 (03.06.98), abstract; fig.1,5,6,7; claim 1; column 4, line 5 - column 5, line 31.	1-24
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: „A“ document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance „E“ earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date „L“ document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) „O“ document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means „P“ document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed „T“ later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention „X“ document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone „Y“ document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art „&“ document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
17 September 1999 (17.09.99)		22 September 1999 (22.09.99)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AT Austrian Patent Office Kohlmarkt 8-10; A-1014 Vienna Facsimile No. 1/53424/200		Authorized officer Berger Telephone No. 1/53424/453

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/KR 99/00374

In Recherchenbericht angeführtes Patentdokument Patent document cited in search report Document de brevet cité dans le rapport de recherche		Datum der Veröffentlichung Publication date Date de publication	Mitglied(er) der Patentfamilie Patent family member(s) Membre(s) de la famille de brevets	Datum der Veröffentlichung Publication date Date de publication
EP A2	837472	22-04-1998	EP A3 837472 JP A2 10125006	16-12-1998 15-05-1998
JP A2	8249659	27-09-1996	keine - none - rien	
EP A1	845780	03-06-1998	CN A 1192818 EP A4 845780 WO A1 9707505	09-09-1998 09-06-1999 27-02-1997

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